

From: Morning Consult [reply@e.morningconsult.com]
Sent: 8/24/2018 12:44:49 PM
To: Duffy, Rick [Duffy.Rick@epa.gov]
Subject: Morning Consult Energy: U.S.-China Trade Talks Said to Include Offer to Buy More U.S. Energy Products

M ENERGY

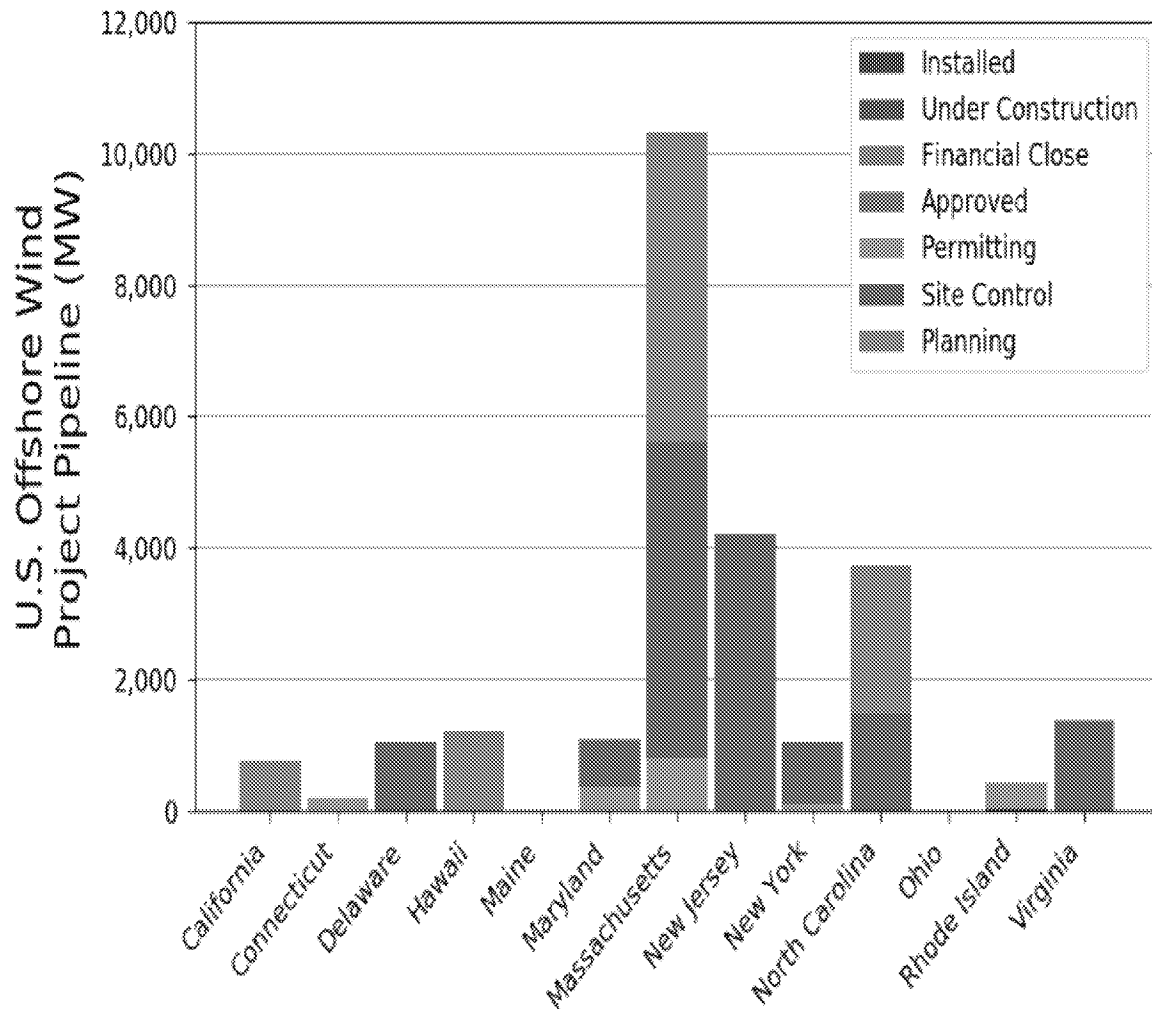
By Jacqueline Toth

Top Stories

- Two days of U.S.-Chinese trade talks ended with little progress, though two people familiar with the discussions said that Chinese officials have been willing to discuss additional purchases of U.S. energy and agricultural products, among other offers. Meanwhile, renegotiations between the United States and Mexico over the North American Free Trade Agreement, which may ultimately include a new energy chapter, have been extended into the weekend. (Financial Times)
- The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management released an environmental analysis in support of Hilcorp Alaska LLC's proposed plan to construct the first oil production facility on what would be an artificial, nine-acre gravel island in federal Arctic waters. BOEM's report, while not a permit for construction, could be used to inform a federal permit in October, according to a BOEM spokesman. (Anchorage Daily News)
- Shares of PDV Holding Inc., the U.S.-based parent company of Citgo Petroleum Corp. must be sold at auction unless Venezuela posts a bond to retain PDVH, under a new court order from the U.S. District Court for the Delaware District. It is unclear if debt-laden Venezuela or its companies can put up the funding. (The Wall Street Journal)

Chart Review

2017 Offshore Wind Market Update
U.S. Department of Energy

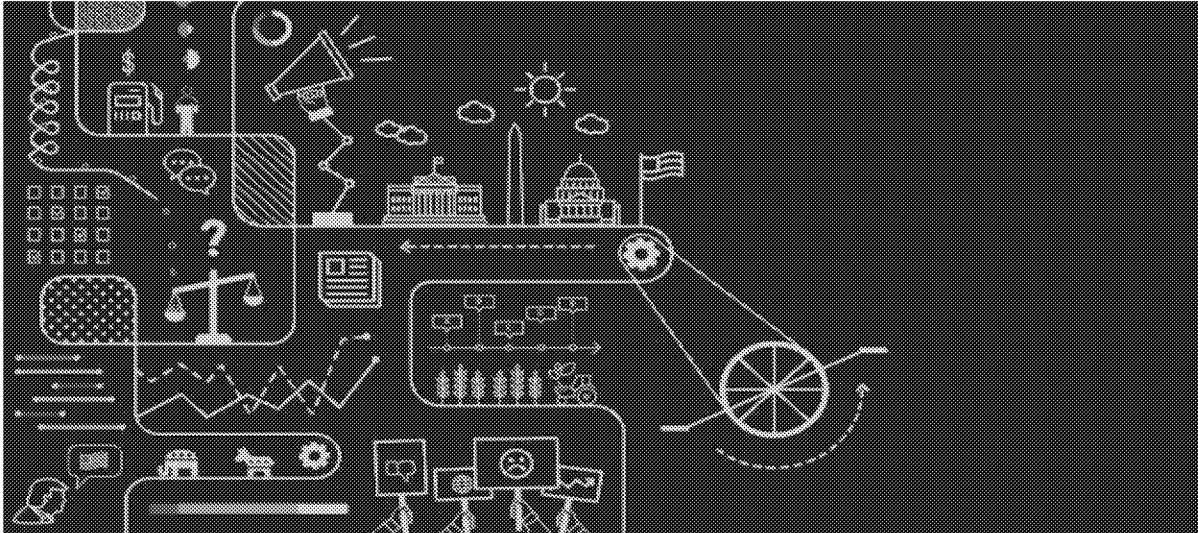


U.S. Project Pipeline by State as of June 2018

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

FRIDAY

No events scheduled



CSR & Political Activism in the Trump Era

How to avoid a firestorm and improve your brand's reputation.

General

Trump's nominee for science advisor pledges to protect scientists from political meddling

Stephanie Ebbs, ABC News

President Trump's nominee to lead the office that advises the president on science said he agrees that the administration has shown a "lack of appreciation" for keeping science independent from politics and that, if confirmed, he will lobby the administration to reverse some of its policies.

Agency follows industry playbook to attack science

Corbin Hiar, E&E News

The Trump administration is assailing the science behind an influential study that helped lead to a ban on a widely used insecticide linked to

brain damage in children, mirroring arguments made by the pesticide industry.

Bayer's Monsanto faces 8,000 lawsuits on glyphosate
Ludwig Burger, Reuters

The number of U.S. lawsuits brought against Bayer's newly acquired Monsanto has jumped to about 8,000, as the German drugmaker braces for years of legal wrangling over alleged cancer risks of glyphosate-based weedkillers.

Oil Rises on Supply Risks After Longest Losing Run Since 2015
Grant Smith and Sharon Cho, Bloomberg

Oil rose in New York and headed for its first weekly gain in two months amid signs of tighter supply from the North Sea to the Middle East.

Oil and Natural Gas

Trump takes aim at Venezuela lifeline, which could raise prices at the pump
Franco Ordoñez, McClatchy DC

The White House is once again considering sanctions that could choke Venezuela's oil production as the Trump administration weighs its next "strong and swift" action to take against Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, two senior administration officials told McClatchy.

China's Unipet to resume U.S. oil purchases after tariff policy change - sources
Florence Tan and Meng Meng, Reuters

China's Unipet will resume purchases of U.S. crude oil in October after a two-month halt due to the trade dispute between the world's two largest economies, three sources with knowledge of the matter said.

The New Gas Market: Shipowners Needing Cleaner Fuel
Paul Garvey, The Wall Street Journal

The global shipping industry could become a new market for liquefied natural gas, thanks to a drastic change in maritime law that aims to curb air pollution.

Trade war seen threatening next US LNG export wave

Corey Paul, Platts

If trade negotiations between the US and China fail, American natural gas exporters could find themselves shipping fewer cargoes to a key market and watching a second wave of US gas liquefaction terminals suffer delay, analysts caution.

Bacteria leads the way to more efficient oil production

Katherine Blunt, Houston Chronicle

In the rocky depths of the nation's shale oil fields, thousands of feet below the production frenzy, primordial bacteria subsist on the very hydrocarbons that make up oil and gas and have transformed the U.S. into an energy powerhouse rivaling Saudi Arabia and Russia.

Top Canadian court quashes city's challenge of Trans Mountain pipeline

Julie Gordon and Rod Nickel, Reuters

Canada's Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed an application by the City of Burnaby, British Columbia to appeal a regulatory decision that allowed expansion work on the Trans Mountain oil pipeline to skirt some bylaws.

Agencies play tug of war over pipeline protection

Blake Sobczak et al, E&E News

Natural gas pipeline companies are being pulled in three different directions as federal agencies mull how to handle new security threats to an increasingly vital resource.

Utilities and Infrastructure

Dems question FERC over chief of staff role in coal, nuke bailout

Gavin Bade, Utility Dive

Two prominent Congressional Democrats asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Wednesday for an explanation for statements made recently by its chief of staff, Anthony Pugliese, saying they "call into question the impartiality and independence of the Commission."

After court decision, FERC backs IMM role in commission proceeding

Kate Winston, Platts

The US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has backed the right of the independent market monitor for PJM Interconnection to participate in commission proceedings, in the wake of a federal court decision that threw the IMM's standing into question.

CenterPoint unveils pilot program for 'renewable natural gas'

Mike Hughlett, Star Tribune

CenterPoint Energy has unveiled an unusual pilot program for "renewable natural gas," offering customers a greener - though more expensive - alternative to conventional gas.

Renewables

Elon Musk Wants to Take Tesla Private. Can He Make the Math Work?

David Gelles and Peter Eavis, The New York Times

Elon Musk says he wants to take Tesla private. The electric car company's chief executive announced that he was considering as much with an impulsive tweet on Aug. 7, and expanded on his thinking in a letter to employees, a blog post and an interview with The New York Times.

Coal

E.P.A. Rule Change Could Let Dirtiest Coal Plants Keep Running (and Stay Dirty)

Eric Lipton, The New York Times

One of the main advancements of the past half-century at coal-burning power plants has been the "scrubber," a clean-air device that played a major role in ending the acid-rain crisis of the 1970s and that removes millions of tons a year of a pollutant blamed for respiratory disease.

More states take interest in legal fight over coal terminal
The Associated Press

Six states have lined up in support of Washington state in a legal battle over its decision to block a proposed coal-export terminal on the Columbia River.

Trump Put a Low Cost on Carbon Emissions. Here's Why It Matters.

Brad Plumer, The New York Times

How much economic damage will global warming cause? That's one of the key questions embedded in the Trump administration's recent proposals to weaken Obama-era regulations on greenhouse gas emissions from both vehicles and power plants.

Nuclear

S.C. legal team blasts DOE in latest MOX filing

Colin Demarest, Aiken Standard

South Carolina's attorney general and his legal team have accused the U.S. Department of Energy of hasty decision making, lackadaisical analysis and blind faith in reference to the department's latest attempt to shutter the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility.

Climate

How Wildfires Can Affect Climate Change (and Vice Versa)

Bob Berwyn, InsideClimate News

The extreme wildfires sweeping across parts of North America, Europe and Siberia this year are not only wreaking local damage and sending choking smoke downwind. They are also affecting the climate itself in important ways that will long outlast their flames.

Midwest Utility Turning to Cows, Landfills for a Gas Alternative

Naureen S. Malik, Bloomberg

CenterPoint Energy Inc. wants to introduce a pilot program in Minnesota offering customers access to a renewable form of natural gas recovered from dairy farms and landfills.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Want to Put America First? Renew NAFTA, Preserve ISDS **Guy Caruso, Morning Consult**

A "handshake deal" is expected to be announced imminently on the North American Free Trade Agreement between the United States and Mexico, paving the way for Canada to come back to the table. But as negotiations continue, often overlooked in discussions about NAFTA's future is the critical role the agreement has played in shaping energy trade between the three nations.

Trump's latest energy plan leaves American energy and innovation in the dark **U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-Calif.), The Hill**

Since coming to office, President Trump has led the U.S. down a path of regression, ceding the nation's leadership on important issues, chief among them our commitment to policies that promote energy innovation and job creation, and combat the impending dangers of climate change. His latest attempt to turn back the clock on America's energy progress was rolled out this week by the acting director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a former coal lobbyist himself.

San Francisco vs. the Fish **The Editorial Board, The Wall Street Journal**

The good liberals of San Francisco love to advertise their green virtue, such as their recent ban on plastic straws. But that doesn't seem to be protecting them from the same predicament long faced by farmers in California's Central Valley: water shortages due to the decisions of Sacramento regulators.

Redirecting Trump's Coal and Nuclear Bailout to Fund Economic Redevelopment **Sonia Aggarwal, Greentech Media**

Coal and nuclear facilities are facing a tough economic reality in the United States. Competitive power markets are oversupplied, while natural gas and renewable energy are undercutting coal and nuclear on cost.

Research Reports

Retail choice will not bring down Puerto Rico's high electricity rates

Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis

In the wake of the devastation Hurricane Maria caused Puerto Rico's electrical system, a plethora of policy and regulatory changes have been proposed to rebuild and provide resiliency for the electrical grid. Among the more recent proposals is the suggestion that Puerto Rico move to a model of "retail choice," where individual electricity customers select their providers.



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